

Message Text

PAGE 01 SEOUL 07085 110436Z

11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

OES-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIEP-01 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 OTPE-00 NASA-01

FCC-01 /089 W

----- 053628

P R 110346Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2717

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7085

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, KS

SUBJECT: OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION: KOREAN AMERICAN OIL
COMPANY INTEREST IN USING SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT

1. VISITING OFFICIALS OF KOREAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY (KOAM),
BASED IN DENVER, ASKED AMBASSADOR ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR
USG APPROVAL OF USE OF SATELLITE NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT
IN EXPLORATION OF KOREAN BLOCK VII. KOAM PRESIDENT
EDWARD D. LOUGHNEY AND VICE-PRESIDENT WILSON B. PARTRIDGE
(WHO IS ALSO INTERNATIONAL VP OF HANILTON BROTHERS
OIL CO., A MAJOR SHAREHOLDER OF KOAM), STATED THAT
KOAM HAD ALREADY DONE NEARLY ALL THE SEISMIC WORK
NEEDED AND THAT IT HAD NOW CONCENTRATED ITS INTEREST
IN FAR WESTERN PART OF BLOCK VII (NEAR WHERE GULF
AND CALTEX WOULD LIKE TO DRILL IN BLOCKS IV AND V
RESPECTIVELY). HOWEVER, KOAM HAS NOT MADE ANY
PLANS TO DRILL BECAUSE THE DIET HAS NOT RATIFIED THE
ROK-JAPANESE AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR JOINT DEVELOP-
MENT OF MOST OF BLOCK VII. IF THE AGREEMENT ENTERED
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 07085 110436Z

INTO FORCE, KOAM WOULD BE THE OPERATOR FOR KOREA IN
THAT PART OF TNU JOINT AREA FALLING IN BLOCK VII AND
JAPAN WOULD HAVE SEPARATE OPERATORS FOR EACH OF
THREE SUBSECTORS. LOUGHNEY VOLUNTEERED THAT KOAM

UNDERSTOOD THAT SOME OF BLOCK VII MIGHT FALL WITHIN THE PRC'S "AREA OF INTEREST" ALTHOUGH ALL OF BLOCK VII WOULD FALL ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF A MEDIAN LINE EVEN WHEN DRAWN TO INCLUDE PRC ISLANDS. AMBASSADOR SAID THE QUESTION OF SATELLITE NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT LICENSING WOULD HAVE TO BE ANSWERED IN WASHINGTON. THE KOAM OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY HAD REVIEWED EXPLORATION SITUATION IN GENERAL TERMS WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY EDMOND LAST YEAR BUT HAD NOT MADE ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS.

2. ROK OFFICIALS TO WHOM LOUGHNEY AND PARTRIDGE TALKED (INCLUDING MCI MINISTER CHANG, YIE JOON AND MOFA VICE MINISTER LHO, SHIN YONG) APPEARED SATISFIED THAT KOAM HAS PERFORMED AS WELL AS POSSIBLE IN CIRCUMSTANCES AND INDICATED ROKG WOULD CONTINUE RELY ON KOAM AS DESIGNATED KOREAN OPERATOR FOR BLOCK VII. KOAM BELIEVES ROKG WILL PUT INCREASING PRESSURE FOR UNILATERAL DRILLING IF GOJ HOLDS OFF RATIFICATION OF ROK-GOJ AGREEMENT.

3. FOR TOKYO. LOUGHNEY AND PARTRIDGE PROCEEDING TO JAPAN TODAY TO CONSULT WITH JAPANESE OIL FIRMS DESIGNATED TO OPERATE IN JOINT AREA. THEY WILL ALSO CALL AT EMBASSY TOKYO FOR ADVICE ON PROSPECTS FOR DIET RATIFICATION OF ROK-JAPAN AGREEMENT.
SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLORATORY DRILLING, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL07085
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750314-0324
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197509107/baaaausd.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: ENRG, KS, KOREAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY, KOAM
To: STATE
TOKYO INFO PEKING
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006